

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2796

AN ACT

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide for the eligibility of rural community response pilot programs for funding under the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Rural Opioid Abuse
3 Prevention Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY OF RURAL COMMUNITY RESPONSE**
5 **PILOT PROGRAMS FOR FUNDING UNDER THE**
6 **COMPREHENSIVE OPIOID ABUSE GRANT PRO-**
7 **GRAM.**

8 Section 3021 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control
9 and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10701) is amend-
10 ed—

11 (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

12 (A) in subparagraph (F), by striking
13 “and”;

14 (B) in subparagraph (G), by striking the
15 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

16 (C) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(H) a pilot program for rural areas to im-
18 plement community response programs that
19 focus on reducing opioid overdose deaths, which
20 may include presenting alternatives to incarcer-
21 ation, as described in subsection (f).”; and

22 (2) by adding at the end the following:

23 “(f) **RURAL PILOT PROGRAM.**—

24 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The pilot program de-
25 scribed under this subsection shall make grants to
26 rural areas to implement community response pro-

1 grams to reduce opioid overdose deaths. Grants
2 issued under this subsection shall be jointly operated
3 by units of local government, in collaboration with
4 public safety and public health agencies or public
5 safety, public health and behavioral health collabora-
6 tions. A community response program under this
7 subsection shall identify gaps in community preven-
8 tion, treatment, and recovery services for individuals
9 who encounter the criminal justice system and shall
10 establish treatment protocols to address identified
11 shortcomings. The Attorney General, through the
12 Office of Justice Programs, shall increase the
13 amount provided as a grant under this section for a
14 pilot program by no more than five percent for each
15 of the two years following certification by the Attor-
16 ney General of the submission of data by the rural
17 area on the prescribing of schedules II, III, and IV
18 controlled substances to a prescription drug moni-
19 toring program, or any other centralized database
20 administered by an authorized State agency, which
21 includes tracking the dispensation of such sub-
22 stances, and providing for interoperability and data
23 sharing with each other such program (including an
24 electronic health records system) in each other

1 State, and with any interstate entity that shares in-
2 formation between such programs.

3 “(2) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
4 this subsection shall be construed to—

5 “(A) direct or encourage a State to use a
6 specific interstate data sharing program; or

7 “(B) limit or prohibit the discretion of a
8 prescription drug monitoring program for inter-
9 operability connections to other programs (in-
10 cluding electronic health records systems, hos-
11 pital systems, pharmacy dispensing systems, or
12 health information exchanges).”.

Passed the Senate December 8, 2021.

Attest:

Secretary.

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